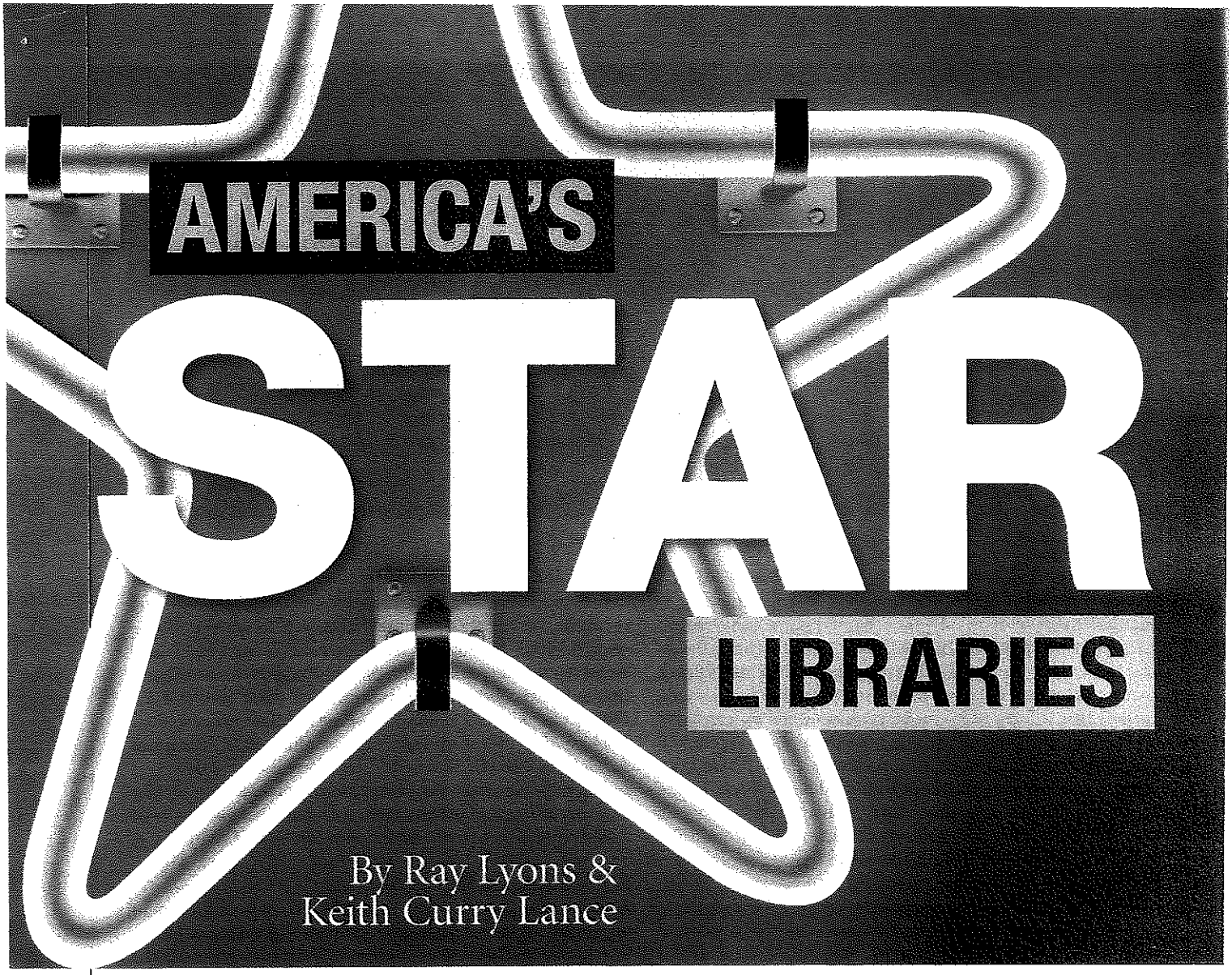

By Ray Lyons & Keith Curry Lance

Historically, the four measures included in the *Library Journal* Index of Public Library Service (sponsored by Baker & Taylor's Bibliostat) have been circulation, library visits, program attendance, and public Internet computer use. Now, the design of the *LJ* Index is beginning to evolve. The stars have finally aligned to add a fifth statistical measure to the scoring—circulation of electronic materials, or e-circ for short. Because the *LJ* Index is based on data collected by the Public Libraries Survey (PLS)—a federal-state cooperative project of IMLS and the state library agencies—the Index could not add new measures until PLS did.

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WHAT IS E-CIRC AND WHY DID WE ADD IT?

The definition of circulation of electronic materials (e-circ) for PLS appears clear and stable. E-circ involves ebooks and downloadable audio and video but not licensed databases or what PLS now calls electronic collections. While database use is important, it is notoriously difficult to measure owing to the variety of databases and different ways in which their usage is counted. Apart from adding a couple of sentences to underscore that e-circ is limited to ebooks and downloadable audio and video, the definition remains essentially unchanged, including the explicit exclusion of databases.

We did not add e-circ to the *LJ* Index in 2015 because ten states had not yet begun to collect the requisite data. This was owing to a built-in delay in the PLS; because of survey scheduling variations, it takes some states a year longer than others to report a new item. This year, with only one state (Maryland)

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not yet reporting e-circ data, we decided that it was time to add it to the index. Unfortunately, this resulted in excluding Maryland libraries from the *LJ* Index this year. We hope to see them return in 2017 and encourage all states to be as early adopters as possible of new PLS data elements.

The PLS definition of total circulation is straightforward: the total annual circulation of all library materials of all types, including renewals. Not only was that definition unchanged between 2014 and 2015, this deliberately all-inclusive definition has been unchanged for at least two decades. Since 2014, ebooks and downloadable audio and video files have been explicitly defined as "materials," and nothing in the total circulation definition excluded electronic materials. The definition has long said "materials of all types" and "in all formats." Consequently, e-circ should be a subset of total circulation and thus already included in that long-standing service output. But, in practice, is it?

A thorough review of the 2014 PLS data set suggests the likelihood that there are still a few public libraries out there that do not understand that e-circ should be included in total circulation. Or perhaps the electronic materials landscape is so varied from state to state that some states—or perhaps even local libraries—have a built-in advantage because of their particular arrangements. Our hope is that adding e-circ to the *LJ* Index will help reveal the sources of this data variability—and potential inconsistency—so that the reporting of these two figures by libraries nationwide will become more accurate and stable. Our strongly held belief is that data is improved by being used and exposed to the light of day.

Interestingly, the consensus of opinion among decision-makers about state and national public library data on library materials and their circulation is somewhat disjointed: so far, separate data have been collected about public library holdings in various physical formats (print books and physical audio and video materials, like CDs and DVDs) as well as, more recently, in digital formats (ebooks, streaming audio and video), yet when it comes to circulating items in these disparate formats, everything is combined. Since the 2013 data set—the one on which 2015 *LJ* Index scores were based—a separate count of e-circ has been requested.

So, not only is e-circ a newly established data element, it also raises questions about reporting practices in recent years for total circulation. Our hope is that seeing these two figures interact in the *LJ* Index scoring process will help to improve the quality of both elements.

The question remains: If e-circ is a subset of total circulation, should e-circ have been considered for inclusion in the *LJ* Index? No other PLS figures that are subsumed in existing *LJ* Index statistics have been used in the Index, e.g., circulation of children's materials and attendance at children's programs. However, we now include e-circ because it represents a new kind of public library use, which—like as-yet-unmeasured database use—no longer requires most users to visit a physical library. The assumption that the overwhelming majority of public library use is connected with in-person visits is no longer tenable.

OVERVIEW OF STAR LIBRARY CHANGES IN 2016

Eligible libraries are grouped by total operating expenditures and then, within each of those groups, rated based on how their five measures compare to the peer group's means (or averages) of these five measures: library visits, circulation, program attendance, and public Internet terminal use—and, now, electronic circulation. As always, the constellation of Star Libraries changes with the data reported, the movement of public libraries from one spending peer group to another, the relative fortunes of libraries in the same peer group, and the actual fortunes of individual libraries.

Table 1 reports the means against which library measures are compared and the standard deviations (SD), which indicate the average difference above or below the mean for all libraries in each spending category.

NEW STARS

Table 3 lists counts of libraries belonging to each expenditure category each year. In the 2016 edition, 199 of 2015 Star Libraries retain Star status, though their numbers of stars may have changed. There are also 61 new or returning Star Libraries that were not awarded stars in last year's edition.

Among libraries spending $30 million or more, the lone new Star Library, with three stars, is Salt Lake County Library Services.

Among libraries spending $10 million–$29.9 million,

TABLE 1 MEANS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS (SD) OF *LJ* INDEX STATISTICS BY EXPENDITURE CATEGORY, 2016 (BASED ON FY14 DATA)

PER CAPITA SERVICE OUTPUT EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	LIBRARY VISITS		TOTAL CIRCULATION		CIRCULATION OF ELECTRONIC MATERIALS		TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE		PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USE	
	MEAN	SD	MEAN	SD	MEAN	SD	MEAN	SD	MEAN	S.D
$30M +	5.34	2.11	10.45	6.70	0.85	0.70	0.36	0.20	1.32	0.66
$10M–$29.9M	5.99	3.02	11.45	8.17	0.98	2.00	0.40	0.24	1.25	0.66
$5M–$9.9M	6.27	3.98	11.14	8.06	0.76	1.64	0.47	0.39	1.41	1.72
$1M–$4.9M	6.57	5.36	9.87	7.84	0.50	0.83	0.55	0.73	1.22	1.15
$400K–$999.9K	7.00	6.54	8.91	7.01	0.44	0.91	0.60	0.68	1.30	1.48
$200K–$399.9K	6.08	5.89	7.62	6.17	0.36	0.75	0.55	0.68	1.26	1.87
$100K–$199.9K	5.59	4.76	7.47	6.28	0.32	0.58	0.56	0.76	1.30	1.80
$50K–$99.9K	4.87	3.98	6.45	4.97	0.32	1.49	0.51	0.66	1.21	1.36
$10K–$49.9K	3.21	2.68	4.27	3.61	0.21	1.03	0.37	0.70	0.95	1.15

KEY: M–Millions K–Thousands

there are seven new Star Libraries. Beverly Hills Public Library, CA, is a new five-star library. Tulsa City-County Library System and Berkeley Public Library, CA, are new four-star libraries. And new three-star libraries include Pikes Peak Library District, CO; Loudoun County Public Library, Leesburg, VA; Central Arkansas Library System; and Charleston County Public Library, SC.

Among libraries spending $5 million–$9.9 million, there are seven new Star facilities. Washington County Cooperative Library Services, OR, is a new five-star library. Brentwood Public Library, NY; Half Hollow Hills Community Public Library, Dix Hills, NY; and Vernon Area Public Library District, Lincolnshire, IL, are new four-star libraries. New three-star libraries include Pueblo City-County Library District, CO; Cerritos Public Library, CA; and Comsewogue Public Library, Port Jefferson, NY.

Among libraries spending $1 million–$4.9 million, there are five new Star Libraries. Lancaster System Administrative Unit, PA, is a new five-star facility. Sanibel Public Library, FL, is a new four-star library. And new three-star libraries include:

How E-Circ Changes the *LJ* Index

When we first designed the *LJ* Index of Public Library Service in 2008, it was based on IMLS data from FY06. At that time, most public library use was in-person, building-based activity. If someone wanted something to read or needed information, they went to a library and checked out a book or a CD, video, or DVD; attended a program event; or used a library computer. Consequently, when designing the *LJ* Index, we expected to see fairly strong correlations between each of the four variables that contributed to the Index score.

This year's addition of e-circ is a game-changer in more than the obvious way. Certainly, adding a fifth measure to the index design alters it in purely statistical terms; however, it also changes the index conceptually. We are no longer working on the old assumptions about most public library use being in-person and building-based. While someone could download an ebook or an audio or video file at a library, it is probably at least as likely that they would do it remotely from their home, workplace, or elsewhere. This raises an intriguing conceptual question: What relationship, if any, should we expect between output measures that are at least somewhat tied to physical use versus measures that are more virtual?

To answer this question, we conducted a correlation analysis similar to the one on which the *LJ* Index was based originally. Only this time, we added e-circ into the equation (see Table 2).

What we found is that, while e-circ is positively and significantly correlated with the four long-standing *LJ* Index measures, the strength of its correlations with those other measures is weaker, below .25. Considering that e-circ does not require a physical library visit and isn't necessarily strongly tied to program attendance or computer use, this was not surprising. What might surprise some is that the correlation between total circulation and e-circ—which is supposed to be a subset of it—is also relatively weak by previous *LJ* Index standards, though the strongest of e-circ's correlations with other measures.

If e-circ had been any measure of library use associated with physical library visits, such weak correlations might have led us to question the appropriateness of including it at all. Given what we know about e-circ's key difference from other measures, though, we consider it an appropriate and timely addition. This is particularly so, given what we know about the foreseeable

WHAT STAR LIBRARIES SAY ABOUT E-CIRC

Beyond the bird's-eye view, which the PLS data provides, we asked a dozen Star Libraries whose e-circ statistics were highest in their expenditure groups about their experiences and observations about circulation of electronic materials and collated the insights below.

ARAPAHOE LIBRARIES, CO

Cindy Phillips, manager of library materials services for Arapahoe Libraries, called attention to particular electronic materials formats and how patrons are responding differently to them. Like many libraries with high e-circ, Arapahoe Libraries offer a diversity of materials: ebooks, e-audiobooks, downloadable and streaming music, streaming video, and so on. The staff are also responding to the evolution of e-media by exploring the addition of downloadable games. Asked about patron response to electronic materials, she reported that those who use them love them, though they wish some of the interfaces were easier.

HUDSON LIBRARY & HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OH

Ohio's Hudson Library and Historical Society has been offering electronic materials since joining the Clevenet consortium in 2003. Today, it offers ebooks and e-audiobooks through OverDrive, One Click Digital, Freading, and Tumblebooks; downloadable music through Freegal and hoopla; streaming video through hoopla, OverDrive, and InstantFlix; and digital magazines through Zinio and Flipster. No doubt, the variety of e-materials and platforms contributes to the library's high level of e-circ.

Asked how patrons are made aware of these bountiful options, Assistant Director **Ellen Smith** credited a number of strategies for publicizing the availability of electronic materials. "In addition to prominent placement of these materials on our website through our 'Download It' tab, the library places frequent press releases in our local paper, social media, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and email blasts as well as through frequent instructional sessions (daytime, evening, and weekends) on how to download library materials, [and] one-on-one tutorials by appointment. Librarians also 'take the show on the road' to the area's assisted living facilities and senior centers, explaining all that is available through our virtual catalog and how to access it, and have appeared on local TV programs (in Cleveland), demonstrating how to download library e-media. For the last three years, the Hudson Library has also held a 'TechFest' to showcase all we have to offer regarding technology, and e-media is a big part of that demonstration."

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF CINCINNATI & HAMILTON COUNTY

Kim Fender, director of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County (PLCHC),

Mountain Brook–Emmet O'Neal Library, AL; Belvedere-Tiburon Library, CA; and Coal City Public Library District, IL.

Among libraries spending $400,000–$999,999, there are eight new Star Libraries. New Port Richey Public Library, FL, and Leslie County Public Library, Hyden, KY, are new five-star libraries. Hewitt Public Library, TX, and Brewton Public Library, AL, are new four-star libraries. And new three-star libraries include: Oak Bluffs Public Library, MA; Homer Public Library, AK; Orrville Public Library, OH; and Bridgeport Public Library, WV.

Among libraries spending $200,000–$399,999, there are eight new Star Libraries. Columbiana Public Library, AL, and Richland Community Library, MI, are new five-star libraries. This group has no new four-star libraries but six new three-star institutions: John A. Stahl Library, West Point, NE; Roxana Public Library District, IL; Stinson Memorial Public Library District, Anna, IL; Ak-Chin Indian Community Library, Maricopa, AZ; Kalkaska County Library, MI; and Garden Home Community Library, Portland, OR.

Among libraries spending $100,000–$199,999, there are six

TABLE 2 BIVARIATE CORRELATIONS BETWEEN *LJ* INDEX PER CAPITA MEASURES, FY14 IMLS DATA

LJ INDEX PER CAPITA MEASURES	LIBRARY VISITS	TOTAL CIRCULATION	CIRCULATION OF ELECTRONIC MATERIALS	TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USE
Library Visits	1.000				
Total Circulation	.698	1.000			
Circulation of Electronic Materials	.247	.411	1.000		
Total Program Attendance	.554	.491	.171	1.000	
Public Internet Computer Use	.541	.420	.131	.340	1.000

NOTE: All of these correlations are significant at the .000 level

future of the *LJ* Index: more new output measures are coming, and, more likely than not, they, too, will focus more attention on virtual use of public libraries.

This year the addition of just one virtual output measure means that 20 percent of a library's final *LJ* Index score is dependent on virtual use. With the addition of another virtual output measure next year (Wi-Fi access usage), 40 percent of a library's *LJ* Index score will depend on virtual use. We hope the evolution of the *LJ* Index along these lines will encourage IMLS and the state library agencies to facilitate the development of other virtual output measures to reflect more fully the range of ways Americans use their public libraries today.

The addition of e-circ to the *LJ* Index this year undoubtedly had an impact on which libraries achieved Star Library status. Most obviously, libraries that did not report e-circ for FY14 were not even scored this year. Similar exclusions were made early in the *LJ* Index's history, when late adopters took a few years to begin reporting use of public Internet computers. It is a certainty that some libraries have been enthusiastic early adopters of ebooks and streaming audio and video; those libraries gained an edge in the *LJ* Index scoring process as well as the recognition of Star Libraries. It is also quite likely that some libraries, perhaps some states, developed a dramatically stronger capacity for e-circ activity than others. And, of course, we must also recognize that as e-circ is still a relatively new data element (this being its second year of reporting for most libraries), it is likely that some libraries reported more generous e-circ statistics than other libraries generating comparable output. We hope that including them in the *LJ* Index will encourage those who report and use the data to examine their own data and that of their peers more closely. We believe this provides a powerful incentive for improving data quality.

credits her library's high e-circ to efforts that may not have yet been undertaken by other libraries that are newer to e-circ. "We have an e-branch on our website, we include ebooks in our features titles, we offer an e–Hot Author program that automatically notifies you when a new book by your favorite author is available, and we send emails to the cluster of cardholders who currently use or are likely to use digital content."

Fender also calls attention to her library's outreach efforts. "We provide iPads to some of our outreach customers. One cardholder had been receiving 50 audiobooks each month. It was difficult [for staff] to select 50 new titles [that often]. With her iPad, she can [now] choose and download her own titles, use social media and email, and access the Internet in general. If she doesn't like a book, she can choose another without wondering if she'll have enough books to last until the next outreach staff visit. She has also been able to read books again by enlarging the font."

While electronic materials are popular at PLCHC, Fender sees some cause for concern. "Even with libraries lending hot spots, the digital divide could become wider for our cardholders without ereaders and Internet access."

SEATTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Andrew Harbison, assistant director, collections and access, hears "great feedback on the convenience of e-content from our patrons who are increasingly expecting a high level of personalized, easy, on-demand access. Many of these patrons are accustomed to reading, watching, and listening on the go, across formats. The library's collections are built for quality and relevance, but they are also designed to be delivered efficiently and conveniently."

As a result, he is not surprised by his library's statistical trajectory on e-circ. "Demand for ebooks and e-audiobooks continues to increase substantially every year, as evidenced by circulation figures that increased 24 percent from 2014 to 2015. The number of active ebook and e-audiobook users also continues to grow substantially, with a nearly 13 percent increase from 2014 to 2015. Interestingly, we are also seeing an increase in the average number of ebook and e-audiobook checkouts by individual users, [up] ten percent from 2014 to 2015."

TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

Gary Shaffer, CEO of Tulsa City-County Library, attributes patron awareness of his library's growing collections of electronic materials to something "a bit old-fashioned. Monthly, we print the *Tulsa Book Review*, which is distributed across our county in bookstores, coffee shops, student lounges, etc., as well as in our libraries. It only features advertising from the library (a lot regarding our e-circulating items, our programs, and our partnerships). The *Tulsa Book Review* is also available on the Zinio platform to our library customers. Thus it, too, is a digitally circulating item. It also happens to be available freely to the customers of other Zinio libraries across the country who wish to offer it to their customers.

new Star Libraries. Parker Public Library, AZ, is a new five-star facility. Montevallo–Parnell Memorial Library, AL; Ava Ich Asiit Tribal Library, Mohave Valley, AZ; and Quartzsite Public Library, AZ, are new four-star libraries. The two new three-star libraries in this group are Oxford Public Library, IN, and Pentwater Township Library, MI.

Among libraries spending $50,000–$99,999, there are eight new Star Libraries. Overbrook Public Library, KS, is a new five-star library. There are four new four-star libraries: Dr. Grace O. Doane Alden Public Library, IA; Gardner Public Library, Wakefield, NE; Huachuca City Public Library, AZ; and Wellsburg Public Library, IA. And new three-star libraries include Buhler Public Library, KS, and Saint Paul Public Library, NE.

Among libraries spending $10,000–$49,999, there are 11 new Star Libraries. New five-star libraries are Wilsonville-Vernice Stoudenmire Library, AL, and Double Springs Public Library, AL. The one new four-star library in this group is Pembroke Public Library District, IL. The remaining eight are new three-star libraries, including Bath Public Library, NH; Lanark Public Library, IL; Parker Public Library, SD; Scotland Public Library, SD; Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben, ME; Barton Public Library, VT; Arma City Library, KS; and Gilbertville Public Library, MA.

Next Year's New Statistic: Wi-Fi

Although IMLS has begun collecting data on Wi-Fi access usage, we did not include Wi-Fi use this year because there are ten states whose data reporting schedules mean that they will always be one year behind the other 41 in reporting any new data element. While we reluctantly excluded libraries from one state this year in order to introduce e-circ to the *LJ* Index, excluding libraries in ten was unthinkable.

However, we can give a brief preview. As we did for e-circ last year, let's take a first look at Wi-Fi access usage data reported for FY14.

The Wi-Fi access usage measure has been adopted by libraries and states very quickly. For FY14, 46 states—excluding only Illinois, Maryland, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia—reported Wi-Fi access usage. However, not every library in those 46 states reported this new measure. Nationwide, 5,593 libraries reported Wi-Fi usage. Excluding the 19 reports from Maryland libraries, which were left out of the *LJ* Index this year over missing e-circ data, this means that more than three out of four (76.1%) of the libraries that received *LJ* Index scores this year also reported Wi-Fi access usage.

[WI-FI] IS ANOTHER OVERDUE ADDITION TO THE PLS DATA SET AS, FOR MANY YEARS, PUBLIC LIBRARY PATRONS HAVE BEEN BRINGING THEIR OWN DEVICES INTO LIBRARIES

With the addition of the late-adopting states next year, we are confident that the tenth edition of the *LJ* Index will include Wi-Fi access usage as its sixth measure of public library service output. This is another overdue addition to the PLS data set as, for many years, public library patrons have been bringing their own devices—notebook computers, computer tablets, and smartphones—into libraries and accessing e-materials and collections directly. While it is very important for public libraries to continue to serve as public computing centers by providing free access to public Internet computers, the bring-your-own-device practice of more and more patrons means we have been missing this burgeoning type of in-library virtual use, and, as a result, declines in reported computer usage numbers present a misleading picture of patron priorities.

WHAT'S STILL MISSING?

With the addition of e-circ to the *LJ* Index this year and the likely addition of Wi-Fi access usage next year, what is still missing?

Of the long-standing virtual services provided by most public libraries, the most conspicuously unmeasured use is of licensed databases—or, as the PLS now refers to them, electronic collections. The category of electronic collections is probably the broadest, most diverse concept addressed by the PLS.

In addition to the definitional changes moving from licensed databases to electronic collections, we also face an uphill battle in obtaining comparable usage statistics across vendors. Since January 2014, Project COUNTER (Counting Online Use of NeTworked Electronic Resources) has provided a register of COUNTER-compliant publishers and vendors. Inclusion in this registry indicates that a publisher or vendor provides usage reports that have been audited and found to be in compliance with COUNTER's Code of Practice. The problem, of course, is that not all publishers and vendors and all of their database products are COUNTER-compliant.

If we are to make significant progress toward being able to collect usage data for electronic collections, public library officials who make purchasing decisions should insist that vendors with whom they do business become COUNTER-compliant. Until that, or some other standard, prevails, it will likely be impossible to collect comparable and meaningful data about the use of electronic collections. We encourage IMLS, Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA), and individual state library agencies to collaborate on finding a way to resolve this pressing issue. Despite the absence of data, there can be little doubt that millions of items from electronic collections are delivered to public library patrons every day. And despite the level of investment in these products such access has required of most public libraries for several decades, we still lack even one definitive measure of the extent of their use. Surely, this must be the most conspicuously missing data about public library service output. We look forward to the day when database/electronic collection use can become the seventh measure in the *LJ* Index.

MORE, FEWER, AND LOST STARS

Each year, some libraries that remain in the same expenditure category as they did the previous year earn additional stars compared with the earlier edition. In this 2016 edition, 65 such Star Libraries moved between the three-, four-, and five-star ratings. Of those 65, 16 Star earners moved up from three stars to four, 11 from four stars to five, and—in only one case, Vincent-Lallouise F. McGraw Library, AL—from three stars to five.

Other facilities lost stars between the 2015 and 2016 editions. Without changing expenditure categories, 17 went from five to four stars and 20 went from four stars to three. No libraries dropped from five stars to three.

TABLE 3 PUBLIC LIBRARIES ELIGIBLE FOR THE *LJ* INDEX AND REPEAT AND NEW STAR LIBRARIES, 2009–16 (BASED ON FY06–14 IMLS DATA)

	NUMBER OF LIBRARIES								
EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	NOVEMBER 2016 (2014 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2015 (2013 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2014 (2012 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2013 (2011 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2012 (2010 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2011 (2009 DATA)	OCTOBER 2010 (2008 DATA)	NOVEMBER 2009 (2007 DATA)	FEBRUARY 2009 (2006 DATA)
$30M +	49	51	47	46	44	48	45	36	31
$10M–$29.9M	107	112	113	112	114	107	106	98	88
$5M –$9.9M	222	209	209	1,98	191	211	186	176	159
$1M–$4.9M	1,401	1,397	1,381	1,367	1,349	1,307	1,232	1,209	1,125
$400K–$999.9K	1,414	1,446	1,394	1,395	1,373	1,377	1,333	1,278	1,247
$200K–$399.9K	1,171	1,209	1,208	1,174	1,170	1,129	1,087	1,113	1,089
$100K–$199.9K	1,180	1,257	1,237	1,251	1,258	1,236	1,204	1,191	1,173
$50K–$99.9K	1,055	1,088	1,122	1,111	1,126	1,145	1,128	1,152	1,115
$10K–$49.9K	750	894	875	919	945	953	1,036	1,015	1,088
TOTAL LIBRARIES RATED	7,349	7,663	7,586	7,573	7,570	7,513	7,407	7,268	7,115
LIBRARIES: REPEAT STARS (from prior year)	199	207	198	196	203	195	195	208	n/a
LIBRARIES: NEW STARS (no stars prior year)	61	54	60	67	59	67	63	50	n/a
TOTAL STARS	260	261	258	263	262	262	258	258	n/a

KEY: M–Millions K–Thousands

CHANGING CONSTELLATIONS

Ten libraries retained Star Library status despite moving from a lower to a higher expenditure category and, in two cases, the reverse.

Three libraries gained stars between 2015 and 2016 while moving up one expenditure category:

- Princeton Public Library, NJ, four to five stars, from $1M–$4.9M to $5M–$9.9M
- Brumback Library, Van Wert, OH, three to four stars, $400K–$999.9K to $1M–$4.9M
- Real County Public Library, Leakey, TX, four to five stars, $10K–$49.9K to $50K–$99.9K.

Five libraries retained their Star status while moving up one expenditure category:

- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, three stars, $10M–$29.9M in 2015 to $30M+ in 2016
- Henderson Memorial Public Library Association, Jefferson, OH, three stars, $200K–$399.9K in 2015 to $400K–$999.9K in 2016
- Beresford Public Library, SD, four stars, $100K–$199.K in 2015 to $200K–$399.9K in 2016
- Claude H. Gilmer Memorial Library, Rocksprings, TX, five stars, $50K–$99.9K in 2015 to $100K–$199.9K in 2016
- North Freedom Public Library, WI, five stars, $10K–$49.9K in 2015 to $50K–$99.9K in 2016.

Two libraries moved down an expenditure category between 2015 and 2016 while retaining their Star Library status. Skidompha Public Library, Damariscotta, ME, $400K–$999.9K to $200K–$399.9K, retained its four-star status, while Pelham Library, MA, $100K–$199.9K to $50k–$99.9K, gained a star, going from four to five.

The other libraries that moved from a lower to a higher expenditure category lost stars but retained their Star Library status.

UNDERSTANDING STAR STATUS CHANGES

Library leaders often wonder why their library's star status changes from year to year. In last year's *LJ* Index article, we discussed several alternative explanations for changes in a library's Star status:

- Which libraries qualify for inclusion in the *LJ* Index in a given year (see FAQ).
- Changes in the output data reported by libraries within a spending peer group.
- Actual local changes in the library's output data.

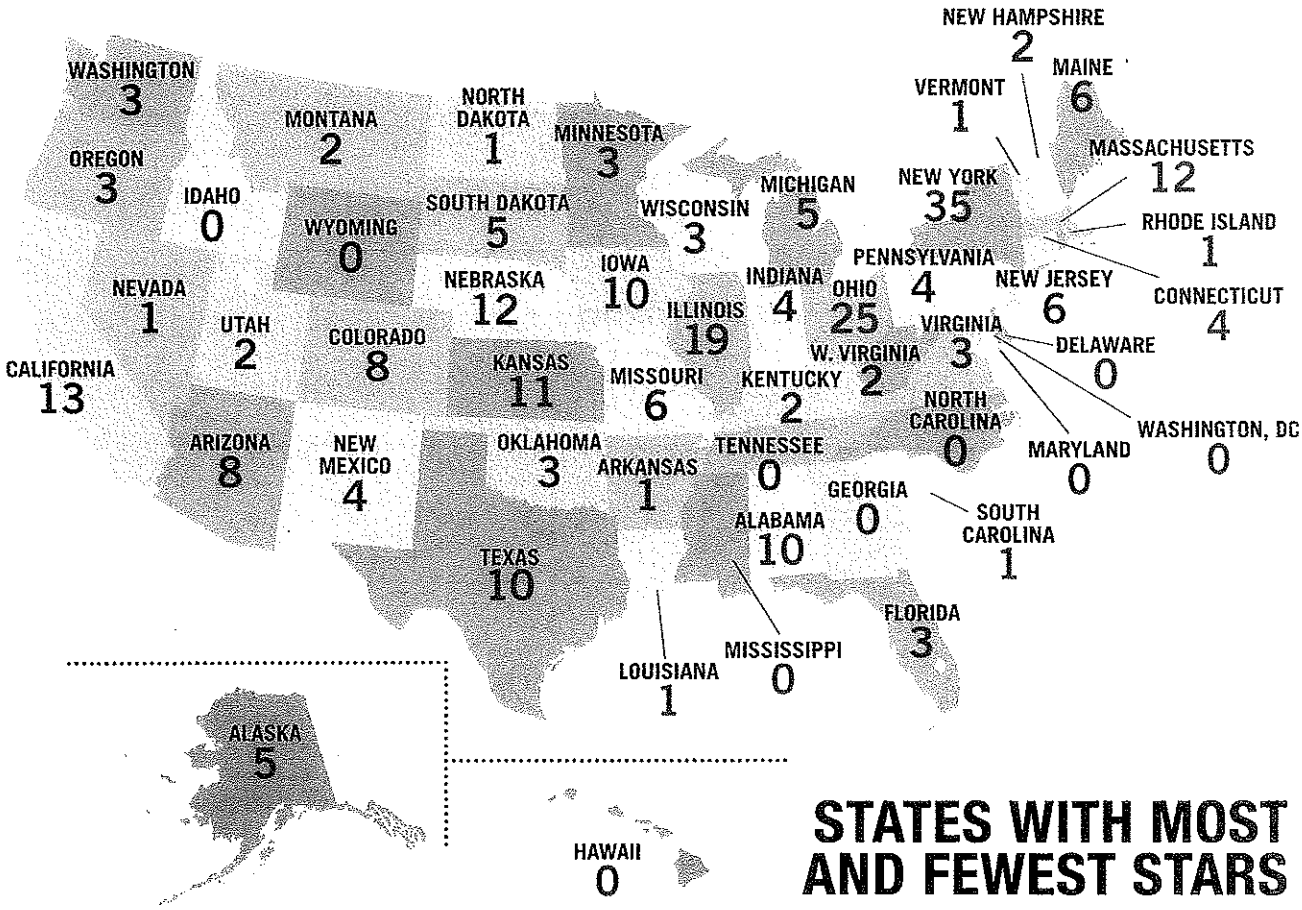
This year, there is another potential explanation: the first substantial change in the design of the *LJ* Index of Public Library Service. *LJ* Index scores have never been comparable from year to year, and this year's introduction into the calculation of a new per capita statistic, e-circ, only underscores this point (as well as causing the upper range of scores in each expenditure category to increase compared with prior years).

THE BASICS & HOW THEY'RE CHANGING

To receive an *LJ* Index score, a library must have a legal service area population of at least 1,000; spend at least $10,000 annually; and report all of the data required to calculate its score.

Over this project's nine-year history, there has been a ten percent decline in the number of public libraries that serve a population of fewer than 1,000. According to IMLS's 2016 document, "Supplemental Tables, Public Libraries Survey, Fiscal Year 2014," there were only 972 libraries nationwide serving fewer than 1,000 people. Compare that with IMLS's 2008 document, "Public Libraries Survey, Fiscal Year 2006," in which there were 1,082 libraries nationwide serving fewer than 1,000 people.

There has also been a 58 percent increase in the size of the highest spending group—$30 million or more—and a 31 percent decrease in the number of libraries in the lowest spending group—$10K to $49.9K. Comparing the first *LJ* Index, in 2009 (2006 data) to this year's (2014 data), the number of libraries in the highest spending group has grown from 31 to 49, while the lowest spending group shrank from 1,088 to 750.



STATES WITH MOST AND FEWEST STARS

The 2016 Star Libraries are found in 41 states. The top four states, ranked by their numbers of Star Libraries, are New York, 35; Ohio, 25; Illinois, 19; and California, 13. These are followed by a tie for fifth and six places shared by Nebraska, 12, and Massachusetts, 12, then Kansas, 11, at seven. Next, there is a three-way tie for places eight to ten shared by Alabama, ten; Iowa, ten; and Texas, ten. Like these top ten states, the remaining 31 Star Library states are scattered across the nation and in every major geographical region.

There are no 2015 Star winners in the District of Columbia or ten states. Four are the Southern states of Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Two of the remaining Star-less states are in the Rocky Mountain West—Idaho and Wyoming—in addition to Delaware and Hawaii. Also, this year there were no Star Libraries from Maryland because e-circulation was not report for all of that state's libraries, the only state for which that was the case.

Notably, two Southern states joined the list this year: Alabama and Arkansas.

Despite the fairly dramatic proportional changes in these basic criteria over the *LJ* Index's history to date, we do not yet see sufficient reason to consider adjusting any of these criteria. Since its earliest years, the *LJ* Index has enjoyed a high level of reporting compliance—the vast majority of libraries that met the population and spending qualifications reported all of the needed data, too. With a new statistic becoming involved in scoring libraries annually—e-circ this year and Wi-Fi access usage next year—it is probably inevitable that more libraries will be excluded from the Index because they fail to report a new statistic. We hope that wishing to remain included in the *LJ* Index and Star Library ratings will serve as an incentive for libraries to be early adopters of these important new output measures.

FIND YOUR LIBRARY

Explore the Star Libraries and look deeper into the *LJ* Index to find your library's peers via the online version of this article at
libraryjournal.com/LJindex2016

If you are new to the *LJ* Index and the Star Library ratings, please consult the FAQ (libraryjournal.com/stars-faq), which explains when, why, and how the *LJ* Index and Star Library ratings were created; how libraries qualify to be rated; the sources and limitations of the data used; and how the ratings do—and why they don't—address certain issues.

There are also online-only resources linked from the web version of this article, including an expanded data file on all public libraries that received *LJ* Index ratings in the current edition, so that those from non–Star Libraries can undertake their own "do-it-yourself" peer comparison. Some ideas for such projects were included in last year's article (ow.ly/22bD304YhFI). ■

THE STAR LIBRARIES 2016

We are pleased to announce the results of the ninth edition of the *Library Journal* Index of Public Library Service, sponsored by Baker & Taylor's Bibliostat. The *LJ* Index rates U.S. public libraries based on selected per capita output measures. The 2016 *LJ* Index derives from data recently released by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for FY14.

In 2016, 7,349 U.S. public libraries qualified to be rated in the *LJ* Index of Public Library Service. This figure is somewhat smaller than last year's, in part owing to the introduction of the new output measure, e-circ. In this edition, there are 260 Star Libraries, each receiving three-star, four-star, or five-star designations.

EXPENDITURE RANGE **$30,000,000+**

			PER CAPITA						
	LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
★★★★★	Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma	OH	616,527	31.5	2.1	13.0	0.6	2.7	1798
	Seattle Public Library	WA	640,500	18.3	2.7	10.3	0.5	2.2	1398
	PL of Cincinnati & Hamilton County	OH	802,374	22.7	2.2	8.6	0.6	2.0	1376
	Cleveland Public Library	OH	398,453	16.0	0.9	8.4	0.6	3.0	1193
	King County Library System, Issaquah	WA	1,400,795	14.9	1.8	7.1	0.4	2.8	1119
★★★★	Columbus Metropolitan Library	OH	850,548	20.0	1.4	6.7	0.4	2.1	999
	Saint Louis County Library	MO	859,148	17.4	0.8	7.2	0.7	1.6	986
	Santa Clara County Library, Campbell	CA	425,564	22.0	0.7	7.6	0.5	1.6	960
	Toledo–Lucas County Public Library	OH	441,815	15.2	1.3	7.0	0.4	2.0	951
	East Baton Rouge Parish Library	LA	446,042	5.7	0.6	5.8	1.1	1.7	950
★★★	San Francisco Public Library	CA	836,620	13.0	1.0	8.1	0.5	1.9	945
	Denver Public Library	CO	648,937	14.0	1.1	6.8	0.6	1.5	915
	Multnomah County Library, Portland	OR	756,530	25.4	0.9	6.2	0.4	1.3	896
	Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh	PA	406,166	9.6	0.7	7.1	0.7	1.4	861
	Salt Lake County Library System, West Jordan	UT	839,929	18.5	1.8	5.2	0.4	0.9	804

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EXPENDITURE RANGE $10,000,000–$29,999,999

	LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA CIRCULATION	PER CAPITA E-CIRCULATION	PER CAPITA VISITS	PER CAPITA PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PER CAPITA PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
	Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne	IN	355,329	35.0	19.6	6.7	0.5	1.4	1387
	Beverly Hills Public Library	CA	34,677	18.6	0.3	22.6	0.8	2.3	1552
★	Arlington Heights Memorial Library	IL	75,101	34.2	1.4	12.1	1.1	1.8	1467
★	Ann Arbor District Library	MI	163,590	54.4	2.2	9.7	0.5	1.2	1353
★	Naperville Public Library	IL	141,853	28.8	1.0	11.8	0.6	2.8	1342
★	Skokie Public Library	IL	64,784	31.7	0.8	12.4	0.9	1.8	1337
★	Middle Country Public Library, Centereach	NY	62,562	17.0	0.6	7.9	1.2	3.0	1325
	Mercer County Library, Lawrenceville	NJ	160,057	11.9	0.5	9.0	0.7	4.7	1320
	Kansas City Public Library	MO	218,765	9.5	1.5	10.5	0.7	3.8	1280
	Santa Monica Public Library	CA	92,185	17.3	0.5	13.7	0.7	2.3	1180
	Schaumburg Township District Library	IL	126,849	19.8	0.7	12.1	0.9	1.3	1095
	Central Rappahannock Reg. Lib., Fredericksburg	VA	298,007	36.5	0.4	10.1	0.5	1.0	1014
	Salt Lake City Public Library	UT	191,180	17.0	1.0	10.9	0.5	1.9	976
★	Madison Public Library	WI	263,184	15.4	0.8	8.2	0.4	2.8	958
★	Tulsa City-County Library System	OK	613,819	9.3	7.2	5.4	0.5	1.6	954
★	Kenton County Public Library, Ft. Mitchell	KY	163,145	13.8	1.1	5.9	1.0	1.7	944
★	Somerset County Library, Bridgewater	NJ	188,378	17.2	1.8	8.1	0.8	1.2	933
	Berkeley Public Library	CA	117,372	16.8	1.2	11.4	0.4	1.5	910
	Arapahoe Library District, Englewood	CO	253,896	17.8	3.4	7.9	0.5	1.2	888
	Rochester Public Library	NY	210,565	7.1	0.2	8.8	0.9	1.7	866
	Evansville-Vanderburgh Public Library, Evansville	IN	179,703	13.7	1.4	9.7	0.3	2.0	846
	Akron-Summit Cty. Public Library	OH	377,588	13.9	0.7	7.4	0.6	1.7	827
	Ramsey County Library, Shoreview	MN	231,811	25.8	1.3	6.9	0.4	1.3	819
	San Mateo County Library	CA	276,469	12.0	0.5	7.4	0.8	1.4	816
★	Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs	CO	607,457	13.9	1.4	5.9	0.6	1.7	800
★	Douglas County Libraries, Castle Rock	CO	306,033	25.6	1.8	6.3	0.5	0.5	766
★	Springfield-Greene County Library District	MO	275,174	13.2	0.5	6.8	0.5	1.8	758
	Loudoun County Public Library, Leesburg	VA	324,337	17.5	0.9	5.4	0.7	1.0	TIE 748
	Stark County District Library, Canton	OH	240,131	14.6	0.8	6.1	0.7	1.1	TIE 748
	Central Arkansas Library System, Little Rock	AR	311,250	9.0	1.1	7.2	0.7	1.1	743
	Charleston County Public Library System	SC	350,209	9.4	1.0	5.2	0.6	1.8	715

EXPENDITURE RANGE $5,000,000–$9,999,999

	LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA CIRCULATION	PER CAPITA E-CIRCULATION	PER CAPITA VISITS	PER CAPITA PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PER CAPITA PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
	Washington County Cooperative Lib. Svcs., Hillsboro	OR	14,327	47.8	20.9	8.5	0.4	0.7	2286
	Westerville Public Library	OH	90,764	24.4	3.1	12.4	0.7	20.7	2244
	Worthington Public Library	OH	59,689	48.0	5.3	24.2	1.1	3.0	2043
★	Princeton Public Library	NJ	28,572	18.8	1.8	29.4	2.5	2.9	1951
★	Upper Arlington Public Library	OH	34,150	50.0	2.7	27.0	1.0	2.4	1908
★	Redwood City Public Library	CA	80,768	20.9	0.5	12.8	2.5	10.3	1900
★	Cleveland Heights–University Heights PL	OH	57,867	30.8	1.3	18.1	1.2	5.0	1571
	Westport Library	CT	27,308	24.3	1.0	15.0	2.6	1.6	1545
	Plainview–Old Bethpage Public Library, Plainview	NY	28,676	16.1	0.8	14.0	1.6	5.0	1349
	Greenwich Library	CT	62,396	20.4	1.4	10.8	0.8	7.5	1307
	Washington–Centerville Public Library, Centerville	OH	56,628	38.8	2.9	11.6	0.8	1.8	1305
	Oak Park Public Library	IL	51,878	26.5	1.1	15.1	0.9	3.6	1275
	Port Washington Public Library	NY	31,071	12.4	0.7	12.5	1.7	4.4	1267
★	Ela Area Public Library District, Lake Zurich	IL	34,462	27.4	1.7	10.5	0.9	4.1	1218
★	Brentwood Public Library	NY	87,253	15.2	8.2	9.7	0.4	0.7	1127
★	Half Hollow Hills Community PL, Dix Hills	NY	48,558	15.2	7.6	7.5	0.8	0.5	1121
★	Northbrook Public Library	IL	33,170	25.2	0.9	12.7	1.2	1.1	1108
	Northport Public Library	NY	36,113	15.1	0.9	14.2	0.9	3.6	1092
	Vernon Area Public Library District, Lincolnshire	IL	41,055	21.5	1.7	8.0	1.5	0.9	1074
	Patchogue–Medford Library, Patchogue	NY	52,929	16.6	0.4	10.8	1.0	4.5	1072
	Newport Beach Public Library	CA	86,874	19.5	1.1	16.1	0.6	1.4	1012
	Pueblo City-County Library District	CO	161,258	15.4	1.2	8.8	1.1	3.1	1011
	Cerritos Public Library	CA	49,741	11.2	0.2	18.8	0.4	3.7	1002
	Carmel Clay Public Library	IN	83,293	25.3	1.5	6.8	0.8	2.8	1000
★	Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library, Hewlett	NY	20,356	16.5	0.9	10.9	1.0	2.3	968
★	Comsewogue Public Library, Port Jefferson Station	NY	23,752	20.1	1.5	11.7	0.8	0.6	938
★	Cook Memorial Public Library District, Libertyville	IL	59,842	26.4	1.4	9.7	0.6	1.1	931
	Niles Public Library District	IL	57,284	17.8	0.9	7.3	1.1	2.4	923
	Champaign Public Library	IL	81,055	25.2	0.6	11.8	0.5	1.6	918
	Fountaindale Public Library District, Bolingbrook	IL	67,683	16.3	0.6	7.4	1.2	1.6	886

EXPENDITURE RANGE $1,000,000–$4,999,999

LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA					SCORE
			CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	
Avalon Free Public Library	NJ	1,334	123.7	14.3	68.3	8.4	9.8	6692
Grandview Heights Public Library	OH	7,392	84.5	16.7	78.5	3.5	5.2	5606
Hudson Library & Historical Society	OH	22,262	56.1	10.2	42.0	1.8	6.7	3676
San Miguel Library District # 1, Telluride	CO	6,121	37.1	1.5	43.0	7.7	7.6	3284
Lakewood Public Library	OH	51,983	31.9	0.6	17.3	2.0	17.2	2680
Westhampton Free Library, Westhampton Beach	NY	5,571	39.3	1.8	30.8	7.1	2.9	2631
Fayetteville Free Library	NY	10,314	28.5	2.1	46.1	3.5	5.2	2519
Bernardsville Public Library	NJ	7,707	26.5	0.4	23.0	3.0	11.6	2354
Center Moriches Free Public Library	NY	7,546	30.7	2.2	34.8	4.9	2.9	2344
Library System of Lancaster County	PA	4,231	10.3	0.2	2.7	14.0	0.0	2250
West Bloomfield Township Public Library	MI	71,755	39.6	1.0	17.7	0.8	11.2	2153
Mattituck-Laurel Library, Mattituck	NY	5,613	16.2	1.8	57.6	0.6	4.7	2101
Twinsburg Public Library	OH	24,453	50.1	2.4	15.7	1.3	6.2	2041
Cutchogue–New Suffolk Free Library, Cutchogue	NY	3,684	34.6	1.1	25.7	4.4	2.8	2014
Brumback Library, Van Wert	OH	23,964	35.5	2.0	22.8	4.1	2.4	1997
Lake Forest Library	IL	19,375	23.3	1.2	24.0	0.7	10.1	1967
St. Helena Public Library	CA	5,943	52.7	1.3	20.2	2.9	2.8	1948
Sanibel Public Library	FL	6,490	29.5	1.8	18.5	3.6	4.5	1944
Darien Library	CT	21,330	31.1	1.0	17.0	2.4	7.3	1916
Mary Riley Styles Public Library, Falls Church	VA	12,567	36.7	3.3	25.2	1.9	2.2	1895
Port Jefferson Free Library	NY	7,570	31.8	1.7	27.0	3.4	1.7	1837
Manlius Library	NY	11,226	28.0	1.2	18.6	2.1	6.6	1823
Harrison Memorial Library, Carmel	CA	3,722	42.3	1.1	34.3	1.1	2.7	1798
Emmet O'Neal Library, Mountain Brook	AL	20,369	20.7	6.3	9.9	2.1	2.2	1791
Ocean City Free Public Library	NJ	11,701	21.8	1.2	26.0	1.6	4.8	1665
Wickliffe Public Library	OH	12,753	37.6	1.3	15.3	2.3	3.4	1642
Shaker Heights Public Library	OH	32,311	34.2	1.4	14.6	0.8	6.3	1638
Belvedere-Tiburon Library, Tiburon	CA	11,184	28.6	2.9	14.5	2.4	1.6	1571
Sedona Public Library	AZ	10,176	28.2	1.2	19.9	1.4	4.4	1564
Coal City Public Library District	IL	11,257	19.3	1.1	8.1	5.8	1.2	1547

EXPENDITURE RANGE $400,000–$999,999

LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA					SCORE
			CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	
Foley Public Library	AL	15,402	53.4	17.5	38.5	1.2	2.0	3721
Provincetown Public Library	MA	2,968	33.9	0.0	116.1	1.6	15.3	3670
Camden Public Library	ME	4,838	58.5	1.7	46.7	5.1	14.5	3607
Quogue Library	NY	1,080	36.7	3.4	60.2	6.0	9.5	3480
Hampton Library, Bridgehampton	NY	1,827	45.9	4.3	43.2	8.1	3.4	3335
Island Free Library, New Shoreham	RI	1,051	33.7	1.3	48.0	6.5	7.6	2984
Wellfleet Public Library	MA	2,742	43.4	0.1	37.6	5.7	8.4	2747
New Port Richey Public Library	FL	15,107	43.2	1.0	31.2	7.5	2.3	2609
Leslie County Public Library, Hyden	KY	11,019	34.4	10.2	6.1	1.5	7.7	2592
Amagansett Free Library	NY	1,365	30.8	1.9	30.2	5.8	4.7	2424
West Tisbury Free Public Library	MA	2,828	51.1	0.7	35.0	1.3	11.0	2419
Hewitt Public Library	TX	22,000	24.1	10.2	12.5	3.1	2.5	2416
Page Public Library	AZ	7,582	18.6	0.3	21.2	2.7	18.2	2395
North Kansas City Public Library	MO	4,208	40.9	1.1	44.8	1.8	8.8	2387
Osterville Village Library	MA	3,012	34.4	0.0	30.9	4.8	8.5	2379
Haines Borough Public Library	AK	2,537	40.8	0.6	34.7	2.9	7.6	2251
Brewton Public Library	AL	5,347	22.0	11.7	11.6	0.6	3.5	2227
Unalaska Public Library	AK	4,689	45.4	0.0	24.1	1.4	10.8	2094
Dover Town Library	MA	5,722	33.4	4.8	13.7	3.2	3.3	2046
Smoky Valley Library District, Round Mountain	NV	1,831	40.7	0.3	32.5	3.6	3.2	1993
Lopez Island Library District	WA	2,442	39.9	2.6	30.0	1.5	4.5	1979
Loudonville Public Library	OH	7,677	18.7	0.9	17.6	2.5	11.9	1958
Harbor-Topky Memorial Library, Ashtabula Harbor	OH	3,841	40.5	0.7	18.0	3.7	2.6	1789
Dennis Public Library, Dennisport	MA	2,831	28.6	1.6	35.6	1.4	4.6	1783
Shelter Island Public Library Society	NY	2,392	21.1	1.6	28.1	3.1	3.6	1735
Oak Bluffs Public Library	MA	4,642	40.8	0.6	16.0	2.5	4.6	1700
Henderson Memorial Public Library Assn., Jefferson	OH	5,252	30.3	1.5	22.8	2.2	4.1	1696
Homer Public Library	AK	5,099	23.2	2.1	24.3	1.2	5.7	1640
Orrville Public Library	OH	10,862	47.2	2.3	10.7	1.6	2.0	1601
Bridgeport Public Library	WV	8,149	24.1	7.1	6.5	0.9	1.4	1587

EXPENDITURE RANGE $200,000–$399,999

LIBRARY	STATE	PER CAPITA POPULATION	CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
Red Hook Public Library	NY	1,961	42.0	1.5	119.8	5.9	4.6	4203
Wagnalls Memorial Library, Lithopolis	OH	1,074	92.1	4.2	35.2	2.9	6.1	3588
Grand Marais Public Library	MN	1,355	55.8	4.5	49.7	0.9	9.6	3174
Corry Public Library	PA	11,963	7.0	0.0	7.1	0.6	46.0	2963
Southwest Harbor Public Library	ME	1,771	30.4	2.1	35.5	4.2	13.6	2909
Julia L. Butterfield Memorial Library, Cold Spring	NY	2,641	17.4	0.7	31.4	4.7	19.1	2813
Delta Community Library, Delta Junction	AK	1,089	45.1	1.1	42.2	4.2	7.1	2782
Columbiana Public Library	AL	4,203	23.6	13.2	10.8	1.2	1.8	2781
Pueblo of Isleta Public Library, Albuquerque	NM	3,537	5.6	0.0	32.7	11.2	5.1	2746
Richland Community Library	MI	7,580	25.3	13.5	4.6	0.7	0.2	2588
Central City Public Library	NE	2,921	26.2	0.8	24.0	5.3	6.2	2229
Truro Public Library, North Truro	MA	2,009	32.6	0.1	38.4	3.5	3.2	2050
Alpine County Library/Archives, Markleeville	CA	1,079	22.8	0.3	28.3	3.4	5.7	1877
Beresford Public Library	SD	2,033	27.6	1.7	24.6	1.6	6.1	1838
Library District #2, Linn County, Lacygne	KS	1,698	19.3	0.0	19.8	2.4	10.3	1737
Skidompha Public Library, Damariscotta	ME	5,573	15.8	0.4	31.4	3.5	3.6	1733
Yoakum County/Cecil Bickley Library, Denver City	TX	4,359	9.5	0.2	6.6	6.2	5.0	1662
Meekins Public Library, Williamsburg	MA	2,476	36.7	1.0	18.2	2.4	0.9	1618
James Kennedy Public Library, Dyersville	IA	4,058	35.7	0.7	19.1	2.5	1.0	1592
North Wales Area Library	PA	3,229	27.1	1.0	19.8	2.5	2.1	1556
John A. Stahl Library, West Point	NE	3,310	26.2	2.1	15.5	1.2	3.8	1531
Sargent Memorial Library, Boxborough	MA	5,105	25.9	1.2	18.3	1.3	4.2	1487
Roxana Public Library District	IL	1,542	13.8	0.2	25.2	0.9	8.4	1447
Stinson Memorial Public Library District, Anna	IL	14,068	11.0	7.4	2.1	0.2	0.7	1445
Falls City Library & Arts Center	NE	4,216	32.2	0.5	9.9	1.5	5.2	1426
Ak-Chin Indian Community Library, Maricopa	AZ	1,419	2.7	0.1	24.8	1.9	9.0	1423
Kalkaska County Library	MI	17,153	9.3	7.3	2.3	0.2	0.7	1418
Cordova District Library	IL	1,020	20.6	0.0	16.2	3.4	2.1	1398
Garden Home Community Library, Portland	OR	5,454	35.6	0.8	18.3	0.8	1.9	1393
Lake Park Public Library	FL	8,477	3.2	0.4	33.0	1.1	7.1	1380

EXPENDITURE RANGE $100,000–$199,999

LIBRARY	STATE	PER CAPITA POPULATION	CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
Flomaton Public Library	AL	1,427	92.5	0.2	32.0	0.6	18.1	3420
Madison Valley Public Library, Ennis	MT	1,177	37.9	2.8	42.4	4.2	12.9	3415
Smith Memorial Library, Chautauqua	NY	1,125	23.6	2.1	60.3	1.5	14.7	3178
Craig Public Library	AK	1,198	30.2	8.1	15.3	2.8	4.1	2948
Claud H. Gilmer Memorial Library, Rocksprings	TX	1,884	17.2	0.9	33.1	6.2	14.7	2909
Whitefish Community Library	MT	6,357	17.7	0.6	10.4	0.4	36.0	2813
Hartington Public Library	NE	1,528	29.0	1.5	28.9	2.7	15.1	2683
Neligh Public Library	NE	1,542	38.5	1.4	16.5	5.7	7.6	2541
Parker Public Library	AZ	3,199	21.7	6.8	18.2	1.1	3.8	2414
Falconer Public Library	NY	2,420	39.5	0.0	30.2	4.4	5.3	2313
La Veta Regional Library District	CO	1,271	30.2	0.7	40.7	2.5	6.1	2281
Haslet Public Library	TX	1,641	43.9	2.3	21.1	3.5	1.8	2271
Southworth Library Association, Dryden	NY	1,889	38.7	1.4	23.9	4.1	3.0	2226
Montevallo-Parnell Memorial Library, Montevallo	AL	6,452	15.1	8.6	6.1	0.8	1.5	2205
Rock Creek Public Library	OH	2,746	22.1	0.4	23.3	5.3	6.6	2137
Atkinson Public Library	NE	1,258	25.6	2.0	24.0	2.8	6.4	2130
Ava Ich Asiit Tribal Library, Mohave Valley	AZ	1,028	1.5	0.0	8.3	12.5	1.8	2102
Tivoli Free Library	NY	1,118	21.2	0.7	18.1	4.7	8.2	2089
Quartzsite Public Library	AZ	3,801	12.9	6.0	10.6	1.0	2.8	1925
Bertha Voyer Memorial Library, Honey Grove	TX	1,674	20.8	0.8	19.6	3.5	4.5	1760
W.A. Rankin Memorial Library, Neodesha	KS	2,421	16.5	0.0	36.8	1.4	5.1	1688
Macsherry Library, Alexandria Bay	NY	1,078	23.6	1.0	17.8	1.6	6.3	1653
Oxford Public Library	IN	1,581	18.2	0.7	11.8	4.6	3.3	1603
Carrollton Public Library	MO	3,784	13.9	1.2	9.8	4.4	3.6	1577
Rogersville Public Library	AL	1,250	35.5	0.0	17.2	2.0	3.5	1540
Witherle Memorial Library, Castine	ME	1,358	17.9	0.5	15.2	3.8	3.3	1538
Pentwater Township Library	MI	1,939	30.0	1.4	12.5	1.2	3.0	1477
Cornwall Library Association	CT	1,412	15.3	0.3	12.3	2.5	7.8	1474
Library at Cedar Creek Lake, Seven Points	TX	5,584	12.2	0.3	21.2	3.1	3.6	1471
Mountain View Public Library	MO	2,719	22.1	0.0	27.7	0.2	5.1	1416

EXPENDITURE RANGE $50,000–$99,999

LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA: CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
Real County Public Library, Leakey	TX	1,801	49.5	44.5	11.8	2.0	3.7	5003
Centerville Community Library	SD	1,484	15.4	0.6	39.8	8.1	4.2	3042
Cambridge Public Library	NY	1,870	16.6	1.0	36.5	0.9	17.2	2877
Estancia Public Library	NM	1,655	12.9	8.7	16.0	0.3	13.5	2440
Powers Library Association, Moravia	NY	1,282	15.9	0.8	36.9	1.2	9.0	2301
Lincoln Public Library	NH	1,660	11.0	0.5	33.7	3.5	3.2	2027
Philmont Public Library	NY	1,379	20.6	0.5	23.5	3.8	2.8	1976
Pelham Library	MA	1,321	30.5	0.0	10.6	4.9	2.2	1937
Overbrook Public Library	KS	1,042	28.4	0.0	15.1	0.8	7.7	1807
North Freedom Public Library	WI	1,413	14.7	0.3	7.1	1.1	12.7	1754
Elbridge Free Library	NY	1,058	22.0	1.6	17.1	3.0	2.1	TIE 1741
Freeman Public Library	SD	1,262	23.2	2.6	12.6	0.9	6.7	TIE 1741
Dr. Grace O. Doane Alden Public Library, Alden	IA	1,184	10.6	0.4	22.8	2.4	5.3	1721
Gardner Public Library, Wakefield	NE	1,416	5.7	0.9	6.7	6.7	2.4	1697
Bancroft Public Library	IA	1,268	15.8	0.3	24.4	1.3	4.6	1640
Windham Public Library	NY	1,703	13.3	0.6	16.3	2.4	4.8	1600
Erie City Public Library	KS	1,121	6.0	0.0	13.6	1.0	11.2	1598
Limon Memorial Library	CO	1,857	21.4	0.5	18.6	0.2	6.3	1587
Huachuca City Public Library	AZ	1,810	9.3	0.1	16.7	2.7	5.1	1557
Creighton Public Library	NE	1,120	34.8	0.6	6.5	1.8	2.9	TIE 1550
Wellsburg Public Library	IA	1,144	16.3	0.8	17.1	0.9	6.0	TIE 1550
Kennedy Library of Konawa	OK	1,286	16.4	0.0	10.5	4.9	0.8	1543
Upton County Public Library, McCamey	TX	1,520	12.1	0.0	25.6	0.2	6.2	1537
Edgerton Public Library	MN	1,879	39.8	0.5	14.8	0.5	0.8	1504
Ainsworth Public Library	NE	1,609	12.0	1.3	21.1	1.7	2.8	1483
Tonto Basin Public Library	AZ	1,424	18.6	0.0	17.1	1.3	4.4	TIE 1480
Bolton Free Library, Bolton Landing	NY	2,326	9.4	0.6	15.6	0.9	7.7	TIE 1480
Readlyn Community Library	IA	1,133	9.2	0.8	22.6	1.9	2.4	1429
Jordan Bramley Library, Jordan	NY	1,368	19.5	1.0	13.0	2.4	1.4	1414
Hubbard Public Library	IA	1,549	12.5	0.3	13.7	2.0	4.4	1397
Buhler Public Library	KS	1,332	18.7	0.0	9.4	1.8	4.7	1395
Springfield Memorial Library	NE	1,615	15.6	0.9	17.0	1.4	2.8	1385
Saint Paul Public Library	NE	2,322	22.4	1.5	15.1	0.3	3.4	1378

EXPENDITURE RANGE $10,000–$49,999

LIBRARY	STATE	POPULATION	PER CAPITA: CIRCULATION	E-CIRCULATION	VISITS	PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	PUBLIC INTERNET COMPUTER USERS	SCORE
Lallouise F. McGraw Library, Vincent	AL	2,038	24.1	21.7	3.0	0.3	3.2	3414
Ida Long Goodman Memorial Library, St. John	KS	1,262	19.9	0.6	21.0	9.8	1.0	3101
Velva Public & School Library	ND	1,084	15.4	0.0	5.2	10.1	2.0	2452
Vernice Stoudenmire Library, Wilsonville	AL	1,929	16.3	13.6	3.2	0.1	0.5	2157
Double Springs Public Library	AL	1,068	16.2	8.4	5.2	0.8	1.8	1940
Tularosa Public Library	NM	2,842	9.2	0.0	10.7	1.5	9.3	1874
Nora E. Larabee Memorial Library, Stafford	KS	1,019	28.9	0.0	6.6	0.0	6.5	1814
Milbridge Public Library	ME	1,305	5.7	0.0	14.6	0.1	9.7	1752
Swea City Public Library	IA	1,483	12.1	0.0	13.3	0.5	6.7	1688
Mounds Public Library	OK	1,168	8.3	0.0	10.6	1.5	6.7	1616
De Soto Public Library	IA	1,413	12.4	0.3	14.1	1.9	2.7	1608
Tri-Community Library, Prairie Lea	TX	1,363	10.6	0.0	8.1	4.3	1.8	1584
Pembroke Public Library District, Pembroke Township	IL	1,946	2.4	0.0	2.0	5.7	4.7	1578
Piedmont Public Library	WV	1,475	3.6	0.0	9.2	0.7	9.0	1527
Lettie W. Jensen Public Library, Amherst	WI	1,048	19.4	0.8	10.1	1.4	1.4	1523
Inman Public Library	KS	1,391	25.9	0.0	8.0	0.5	2.6	1516
Fred Macaron Library, Springer	NM	1,047	12.1	0.0	12.6	0.0	5.0	1452
Weeping Water Public Library	NE	1,052	14.3	0.8	8.2	2.1	1.8	1447
Chetopa City Library	KS	1,086	13.7	0.0	8.2	0.3	5.9	1443
Elgin Public Library	IA	1,364	14.5	0.5	6.6	2.9	1.4	1437
Stuart Public Library	IA	1,856	9.7	0.4	13.1	0.9	3.3	1418
Bath Public Library	NH	1,086	8.5	2.2	9.2	1.9	1.6	1409
Lanark Public Library	IL	1,457	13.1	0.1	16.8	0.5	1.2	1391
Parker Public Library	SD	1,017	14.3	1.3	12.1	0.3	1.8	1387
Scotland Community Library	SD	1,720	7.4	0.4	19.2	0.9	0.5	1333
Hughes Springs Area Public Library	TX	1,766	9.5	0.0	5.7	3.4	1.8	1320
Ellinwood School Community Library	KS	2,114	10.9	0.1	10.0	2.0	1.4	1305
Barton Public Library	VT	1,498	7.6	0.0	10.2	2.1	2.1	TIE 1289
Henry D. Moore Library, Steuben	ME	1,098	16.6	0.4	6.7	1.8	0.9	TIE 1289
Arma City Library	KS	1,469	7.0	0.0	14.2	0.4	3.3	1279
Gilbertville Public Library	MA	1,498	8.4	0.0	5.5	0.8	5.9	1268